

REMARKS

Claims 66-81 are pending in this application. Claims 66-69, 71 and 74-78 stand rejected and claims 70, 72, 73 and 79-81 were objected to under the Office Action mailed June 5, 2002 (the "Office Action"). In this Amendment, claims 66-69, 71 and 74-78 have been cancelled and claims 70, 72 and 79-81 have been amended. Claims 82-96 have been added by Applicants' new representative with the expectation that a change in the stylistic presentation of the new claims may assist the Examiner in moving this application forward. Applicant maintains that the substance of his invention remains patentable, whether described in either the new or cancelled claims. Applicant respectfully requests further examination of this application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.111.

The Office Action objected to claims 70, 72-73 and 79-81 as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 70, 72 and 79 have been amended to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 73 remains dependant on amended claim 72. The dependency of Claims 80 and 81 has been amended as required by the Office Action to overcome the objection to those claims.


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Claims 66-69, 71 and 74-78 were rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. sections 102(b) or (e) variously by Becker (U.S. 6,314,360), Koizumi et al (U.S. 5,778,333), Suchowerskyj et al. (U.S. 5,438,687) and Lappenbusch et al. (U.S. 6,297,748). Applicant respectfully suggests that these references are all deficient in teaching each an every element of the claims in this application whether pending or cancelled. However, since cancellation of claims 66-69, 71 and 74-78 renders discussion of these references moot, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned if he would like to discuss how these references are distinguished from the new claims presented with this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,
Peeyush Ranjan
Olympic Patent Works ^{PLLC}



Mark I. Crohn
Registration No. 40,573
Direct Dial: (206) 621-1993

Enclosures:

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Olympic Patent Works ^{PLLC}
P.O. Box 4722
Seattle, Washington 98104
Phone: (206) 621-1933
Fax: (206) 621-5302

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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 66-69, 71 and 74-78.

Please amend claims 70, 72 and 79-81.

70. (Amended) A method of determining if an incident is on a travel route, the method comprising:

generating regions of interest surrounding each of a plurality of segments of the travel route;

determining that the incident is within one region of interest;

determining that the incident is on the travel route; and

[The method of Claim 66,] wherein the dynamically generated regions of interest are substantially elliptical.

72. (Amended) A method of determining if an incident is on a travel route, the method comprising:

generating regions of interest surrounding each of a plurality of segments of the travel route;

determining that the incident is within one region of interest;

determining that the incident is on the travel route; and

wherein each of said dynamically generated regions of interest have perimeters where distances to end points of each of said segments are substantially uniform and [The method of Claim 71, wherein] each of said distances are dynamically increased in relation to the length of said segments.

79. (Amended) A method of determining if an incident is on a travel route, the method comprising:

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generating regions of interest surrounding each of a plurality of segments of the travel route;

determining that the incident is within one region of interest;

determining that the incident is on the travel route; and

wherein the plurality of segments are dynamically determined by generating the travel route comprising said segments once a request has been made for the travel route and [The method of Claim 78, wherein] dynamically generating said regions of interest surrounding each of said segments comprises dynamically forming a substantially elliptical region of interest around each of said segments.

80. (Amended) A computer readable medium, containing computer interactions for performing any of the methods of Claims [66-79] 70, 72-73 or 79.

81. (Amended) A computing apparatus, operative to perform [Claims 66-79] any of the methods of Claims 70, 72-73 or 79.

Claims 82-96 are new.

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